

**FRIENDS
OF THE NEW YORK
TRANSIT MUSEUM
GALA 2025**

NEW YORK
TRANSIT
MUSEUM

WELCOME TO THE FRIENDS OF THE NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM GALA 2025

OCTOBER 15 PROGRAM

WELCOME

Bill Amarosa, Jr.

Executive VP, Subways, MTA New York City Transit

Iain Dunning

Board Chair, Friends of the New York Transit Museum

AWARD PRESENTATION

2025 TRANSPORTATION CHAMPION

The Honorable Kathy Hochul

Governor, State of New York

*Presented by **Janno Lieber**, Chair and CEO,
Metropolitan Transportation Authority*

DINNER

GIVING MOMENT

Lucas Hunt

AWARD PRESENTATION

EXCELLENCE IN ACCESS EDUCATION

Susan Ehlerman

Director, The Middleground

Lauren Hough Williams

Executive Director, Program for Inclusion and Neurodiversity
Education, NYU Steinhardt

*Presented by **Virginia Borkoski**, Managing Director,
Global Transit, Hatch*

Board Member, Friends of the New York Transit Museum

DESSERT RECEPTION

THE ROOFTOP CAN BE ACCESSED VIA THE STAIRS OR ELEVATOR

ABOUT THE NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM

Founded in 1976, the New York Transit Museum uses its unique collections – including a fleet of vintage buses and subway cars – to present dynamic, accessible, and inclusive exhibits and programs that tell stories about how mass transportation makes New York City and the region great by ensuring mobility, accessibility, sustainability, and a vibrant civic life for all. Friends of the New York Transit Museum, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization, was established in 1995 to promote and raise funds for the Museum.

FRIENDS OF THE NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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AWARDS PRESENTATION

SUSAN EHLERMAN

Susan Ehlerman is a social communication specialist with a focus on bridging communication across neurotypes. Over the last 22 years, she has developed the social therapeutic intervention for the NYC Public Schools' Nest Program (NYU), which is the largest strengths-based, inclusion model for autistic students in the US. She has joyfully co-designed the New York Transit Museum's Subway Sleuths program, an award-winning after-school program for autistic train enthusiasts with Lauren Hough Williams. A Speech-Language Pathologist and mindfulness teacher, Susan created The Middleground: a framework which embraces different perspectives to foster transparent and connected communication. It guides her private practice and she relishes in adapting the paradigm to the schools, universities, museums, and communities with whom she collaborates. Susan regularly co-conspires with neurodivergent adults to build therapeutic spaces that honor communication preferences, abilities, challenges, motivations, and advocacy in the pursuit of a more inclusive world.

LAUREN HOUGH WILLIAMS

Lauren Hough Williams is Executive Director of the Program for Inclusion and Neurodiversity Education (PINE) at NYU Steinhardt. Over her 15-year career at NYU, she has built innovative professional development programs that have trained thousands of educators and supported over 50,000 students nationwide. She co-created the New York Transit Museum's Subway Sleuths program, an award-winning after-school program for autistic train enthusiasts—a model for accessible museum programming with Susan Ehlerman. Lauren also co-directed the largest autism inclusion program in the U.S., helping to scale it citywide across New York City public schools, and has partnered with cultural institutions like SUMMIT One Vanderbilt to embed accessibility and inclusion into community experiences. A special education teacher by training and a disability rights champion at heart, she is recognized as a leader who bridges systems—schools, universities, nonprofits, cultural organizations, and companies—to ensure that neurodivergent individuals and communities are seen, centered, supported, and celebrated.

THE HONORABLE KATHY HOCHUL

Kathy Hochul is the 57th Governor of New York—and the only woman to hold the office in State history. The first governor from Upstate New York in more than 100 years, Governor Hochul's tenure has been defined by her efforts to tackle the affordability crisis, introduce comprehensive gun safety reforms, and dramatically increase statewide housing supply. She has emerged as a national voice on abortion rights and mental health, and has positioned New York as a global leader across future-facing industries like high-tech chip manufacturing and AI innovation. A native of Buffalo, Governor Hochul has dedicated her life to public service—and cheering for the Buffalo Bills.

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Above: A Help Point Unit designed, manufactured, and installed by PRI for the NYCT.
Below: A rendering of a next-gen PACIS cabinet designed and manufactured by PRI.



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We are honored to support the Friends of the New York Transit Museum and their mission to preserve the rich history of New York's transit systems. Their dedication to precision, innovation, and community support aligns with PRI's commitment to excellence in transportation infrastructure.

Here's to moving New York forward.

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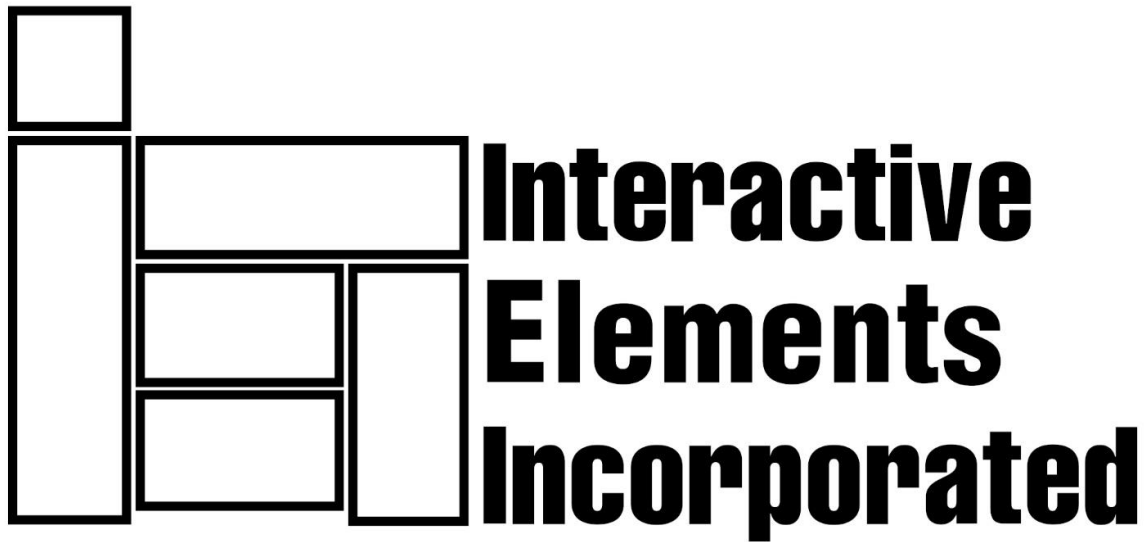
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We believe great cities run on great connections. That's why it's so important to support the Museum and its mission to preserve the stories, spirit and innovation behind New York's transit system.

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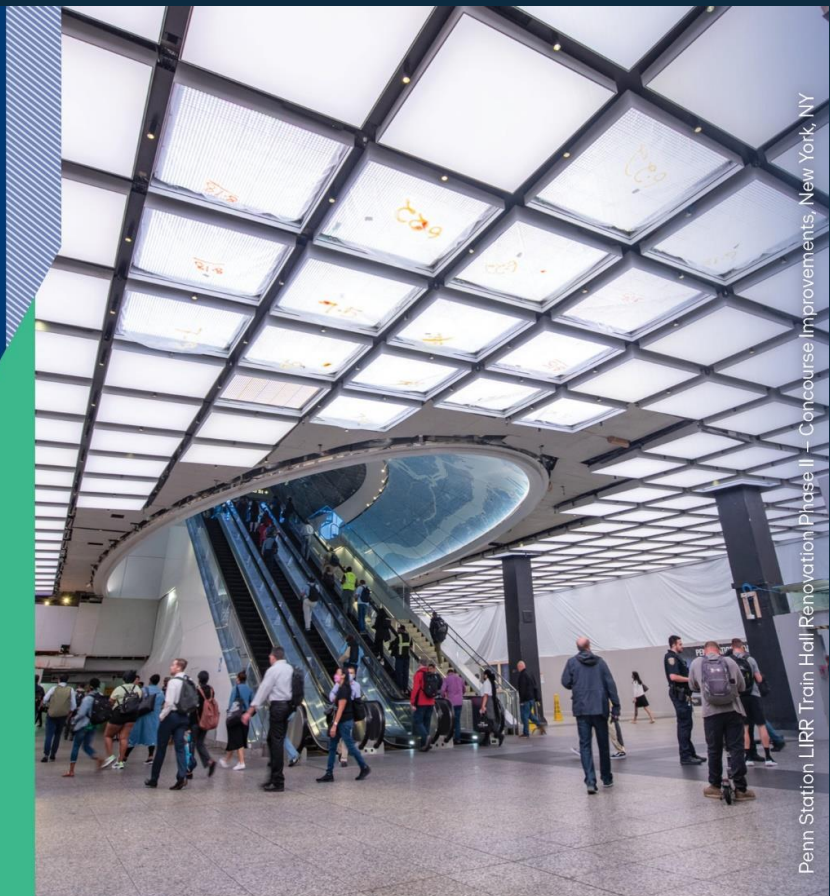
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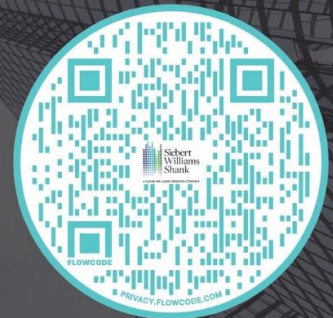


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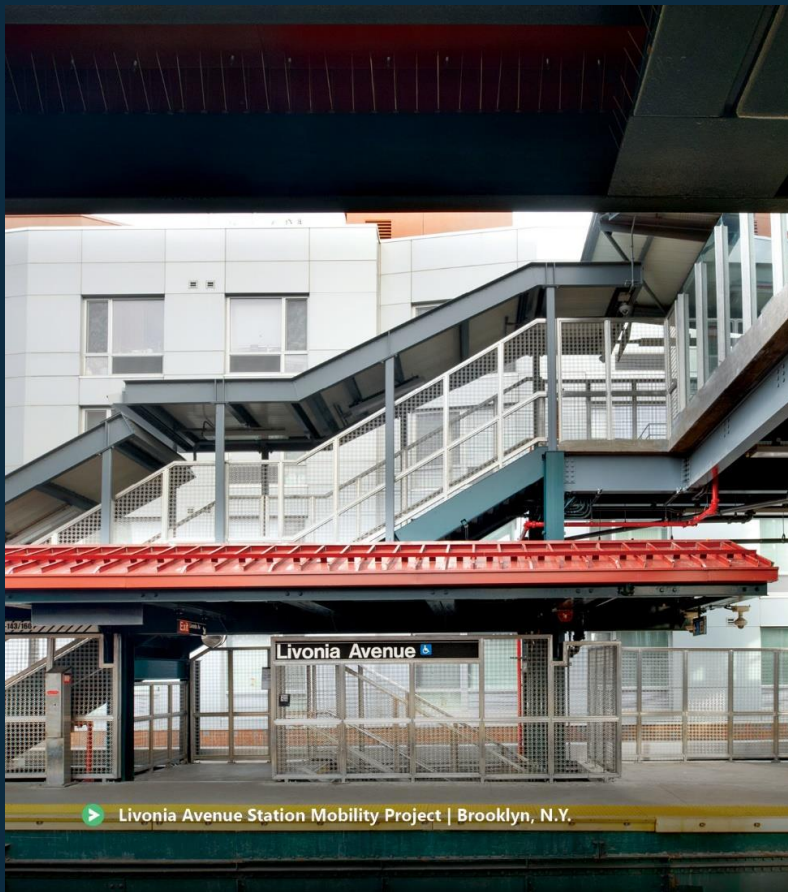
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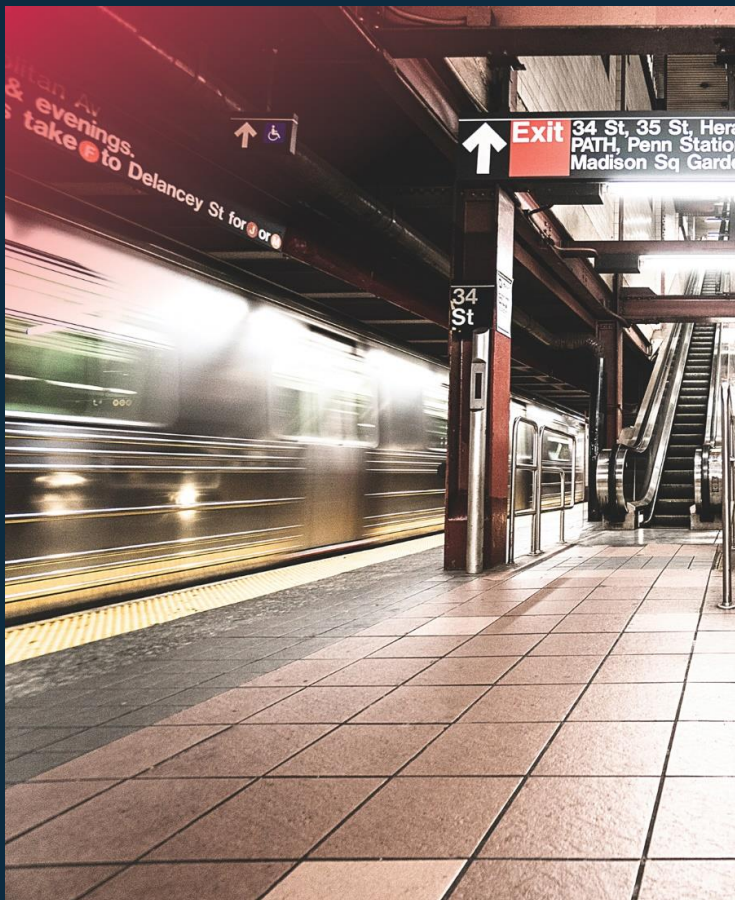
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